

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejection and further examination are requested.

Initially, it is noted that withdrawn claims 16-24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

Further, as required by the examiner, the title of the invention has been amended so as to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. As a result, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

Claims 1-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi et al (US 2003-0016387) in view of Nagasaka (US 2003-0065718). This rejection is respectfully traversed and submitted to be inapplicable to the claims for the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is patentable over Takagi because claim 1 recites a printing device including, in part, a print start instruction receiving unit operable to receive, from a printing instruction device, first location information indicating a storage location of printing instruction information and that printing of the print data should be started, the printing instruction information indicating, to the printing device, details of a printing instruction; and a printing instruction information request unit operable to request, from the printing instruction device, transmission of the printing instruction information indicated by the location information received by said print start instruction receiving unit.

One of the features of the present invention, as recited in claim 1, is a printing device that receives first location information. This information serves two purposes. First, it indicates where the printing instruction information is stored, and second, the receipt of the first location information indicates the printing device is to start printing. When the print device receives the first location information, the print device requests transmission of the printing instruction information located at the first location. After the print device receives the printing instruction information, the print device requests transmission of the print data based on the printing

instruction information. It is submitted that the combination of Takagi and Nagasaki fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of the present invention.

An additional feature of the present invention, as recited in claim 1, is the printing instruction information request unit. This unit requests, from the printing instruction device, the transmission of the printing instruction information. It is further submitted that the combination of Takagi and Nagasaki fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of the present invention.

Takagi discloses an online print system. According to Figure 3, the fax machine 101 sends a request S301 for service content to the service server 103. The service server 103 receives the request and transmits S303 the service content to the fax machine 101. When the service content is received S304, the fax machine 101 sends a request S305 for transmission of the print content. The request is passed S307 to the content server 107. The content server 107 transmits S309 the print content to the service server 103, where it is converted S311 into the print data. The fax machine then sends S314 a request for transmission of print data. The print data is transmitted S317 to the fax machine 101 where it is printed.

Based on the above discussion, it is apparent that Takagi discloses an online print system that requests and receives the printing instruction information from a service server. When the print system receives the printing instruction information, printing begins. However, Takagi does not disclose a printing device including, in part, a print start instruction receiving unit operable to receive, from a printing instruction device, first location information indicating a storage location of printing instruction information and that printing of the print data should be started, the printing instruction information indicating, to the printing device, details of a printing instruction; and a printing instruction information request unit operable to request, from the printing instruction device, transmission of the printing instruction information indicated by the location information received by said print start instruction receiving unit. Furthermore, Takagi does not disclose a printing instruction information request unit operable to request, from the printing instruction device, transmission of the printing instruction information indicated by the location information received by said print start instruction receiving unit. Nagasaka fails to disclose these aspects of the present invention as well.

Nagasaka discloses a data transfer system containing a preview data generation unit 218

that generates preview data corresponding to image data, and a transmission controller 211 that transmits the preview data to a computer system 100. In the computer system 100, a display controller 113 causes the contents of the preview data to be displayed on the screen of the monitor 150. In response to an instruction for transfer of the image data input from the user, a transmission controller 111 transmits a request for transfer of the image data to the image data server 200 and then a second transmission controller 211 transmits a request for transfer of the image data to the computer system 100. A print controller 114 sends the image data through image processing, and a printer 180 prints the processed image data.

Based on the disclosure in Nagasaka, a transmission control unit 111 transmits a request for transfer of the required user interface data, which is used to display the window for print settings. (Paragraph 41) The user then inputs details of print specification 154, and clicks an OK button to transmit the original image data and print the image. The input control unit 112 transmits the various pieces of input setting information to the transmission control unit 111. (Paragraph 48) However, there is no disclosure of a printing instruction information request unit operable to request, from the printing instruction device, transmission of the printing instruction information indicated by the location information received by said print start instruction receiving unit. Furthermore, Nagasaka does not disclose a printing device including, in part, a print start instruction receiving unit operable to receive, from a printing instruction device, first location information indicating a storage location of printing instruction information and that printing of the print data should be started, the printing instruction information indicating, to the printing device details of a printing instruction; and a printing instruction information request unit operable to request, from the printing instruction device, transmission of the printing instruction information indicated by the location information received by said print start instruction receiving unit.

Independent claim 8 is patentable over Takagi in view of Nagasaka for reasons similar to those discussed above with regard to independent claim 1. Specifically, claim 8 recites a printing instruction device operable to generate and transmit first location information that indicates a storage location of printing instruction information and that printing of the print data should be started. It is submitted that the combination of Takagi and Nagasaki fails to disclose or suggest

this aspect of the present invention.

Independent claim 15 is patentable over Takagi in view of Nagasaka for reasons similar to those discussed above with regard to independent claim 1. Specifically, claim 15 recites a printing instruction device operable to generate and transmit first location information that indicates a storage location of printing instruction information, as well as a printing device operable to receive first location information that indicates a storage location of printing instruction information and that printing of the print data should be started. Claim 15 also recites that the printing device is operable to request, from the printing instruction device, transmission of the printing instruction information to said printing device. It is submitted that the combination of Takagi and Nagasaki fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of the present invention.

Claims 2-7 and 9-14 are dependent on independent claims 1 and 8, respectively. Therefore, it is submitted that since claims 1 and 8 are allowable, claims 2-7 and 9-14 are allowable as well.

Because of the above-mentioned distinctions, it is believed clear that claims 1-15 are allowable over the references relied upon in the rejection. Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would not have been motivated to make any combination of the references of record in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 1-15. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 1-15 are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are more issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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